

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

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Situation Report

Severe Storms

July 24, 2006 Afternoon Summary

UPDATED INFORMATION IS IN BOLD

SUMMARY

A Federal disaster declaration was received on July 21, 2006, (FEMA-3267-EM), for City of St. Louis, and the counties of St. Louis, Dent, Iron, Jefferson, St. Charles, and Washington. FEMA is authorized to provide debris removal and emergency protective measures, (Categories A and B), including direct Federal assistance under the Public Assistance program, at 75 percent Federal funding. Additional designations may be made at a later date after further evaluation.

Officials report that **as of 3pm, about 176,000 customers in Missouri are without power, with 127,000 in St Louis County, 47,000 in St Louis City, 2,500 in Washington County**, and the remainder scattered throughout the affected area. 4000 personnel are involved in restoration efforts. **Power has been restored to the 14 nursing homes that were identified over the weekend as high priority projects.** Ameren officials continue to work directly with city, county, state and federal authorities to coordinate other priority restoration areas as needed.

SEMA will conduct Public Assistance Applicant Briefings (for Governmental entities) on Tuesday, July 25, 2006 for St. Louis City and St. Louis County. **The first briefing will be held at 10:00 a.m. July 25, 2006 at the Greensfelder Recreation Complex in Ballwin; the second briefing will be held at 2:30 p.m. in Room 208 (Kennedy Room) at St. Louis City Hall.**

City of St. Louis

City reports traffic signals at 25 intersections remain without power. Shelter populations continue to decrease, although officials are maintaining capabilities to open up facilities should the need arise as it gets warmer throughout the week. Food and water are being distributed at several locations. City crews will be working on debris removal for the next two days or so. City workers are conducting door-to-door health checks to locate people who may need assistance.

St. Louis County

County reports traffic signals at **60 intersections (40 county-maintained, 20 MoDOT)** are not working because of power outage. **Shelter populations continue to decrease, although officials are maintaining capabilities to open up facilities should the need arise as it gets warmer throughout the week.** Water systems in the County have been restored to near 100% operation. Food and water are being distributed at several locations. All fire and EMS crews from outside the metro area have been released to their home jurisdictions.

Washington County

City of Potosi has its water supply back on line, but many residents in the county remain without water. **20 Soldiers from the Missouri National Guard arrived this morning to assist with water distribution operations. One shelter is still open with a population of 3 people. Americorp officials have arrived to do an initial assessment on potential projects.** State officials completed a damage assessment on Friday. 2 homes were confirmed destroyed, while 4 had major damage, and 109 had minor damage.

Other Counties

SEMA Area Coordinators have been in contact with local officials from several counties that were impacted by the disaster. Local damage assessments are on-going in Jefferson County. Minor damage has been reported in Dent and Iron Counties. St Charles County reports roughly 2000 people still without power, however, the City of St Charles suspended its emergency declaration over the weekend.

State Actions

Governor Blunt issued Executive Order 06-28 authorizing the Director of the Missouri Dept of Transportation (MoDOT) to temporarily suspend selected motor carrier and commercial vehicle requirements for disaster response activities as allowed by law. The Governor also issued a public service announcement warning citizens on the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning due to running generators without proper ventilation.

State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) continues to operate the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) at a limited Level-2 activation, with staffing from several state response agencies. SEMA also has a liaison working from the St Louis City Emergency Operations Center. SEMA staff is continuing to collect information from metro and outlying areas of the state effected by this storm system. SEMA will coordinate with FEMA Region 7 and continue to monitor situation and respond to requests for support.

Office of Administration (OA) is working on coordinating delivery of ice and generators to various state facilities in the affected area. Generators were delivered to the Missouri Veterans Home this morning. Ice was delivered to Bellefontaine Habilitation Center on Saturday. Additional deliveries of ice are expected to take place today at various locations. OA coordinated the use of two generators from the City of Rolla to the City of St. Louis Metro Police at two locations within the city. OA reported that the Missouri Veterans Home in St. Louis City received a 1.3 megawatt generator and was operating with power off of that unit AmerenUE restored power last night around 10:00 p.m.

Missouri National Guard (MONG) has over 400 personnel on duty performing various missions. 10 teams are doing health and welfare checks with local fire departments. Five additional teams are performing debris removal activities. One additional team is conducting a transport mission within the area. The Guard is also hauling ice from Clinton to the St Louis area.

Missouri State Highway Patrol (MSHP) has provided troopers to assist with traffic control since the storms. No unusual traffic problems were reported this morning by Troop C (St Louis area). The patrol has also worked with other agencies to assist with delivery of Meals, Ready-to-Eat (MREs) to distribution centers.

Department of Economic Development (DED) is making initial contact with officials in Washington County to review eligibility for long-term recovery programs.

Department of Health & Senior Services (DHSS) reports that more than 100 nurses and nursing assistants have responded to the public service announcement aired over the weekend. DHSS has advised broadcasters to discontinue airing the announcement. DHSS is also coordinating with Ameren on getting power restored to nine elderly care facilities that were identified today. DHSS are contacting health agencies in Dent, Iron, Jefferson, and Washington Counties to further assess needs for medical professionals

Missouri Department of Insurance (MDI) is providing a consumer information hotline for people to call with questions on their insurance policies. The number is 800-726-7390 and is staffed from 8am-5pm on weekdays.

Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) is reviewing a request from St Louis County to provide debris removal assistance in the affected area. Otherwise, state highways in the metro area are near normal. MoDOT has also been reviewing requests for overdimension shipments (i.e. overweight/oversize) on an expedited basis.

Department of Mental Health (DMH) reports that Bellefontaine Habilitation Center is back online. South County Rehabilitation Center has also been connected. Department of Mental Health gave out toll-free number (1-800-364-9687) for shelters and agencies to provide to anyone who may need assistance.

Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has provided technical assistance to City officials in Potosi and Caledonia in Washington County on getting water supplies back online, now that power has been restored. DNR has issued a debris waste waiver for yard waste. DNR and Dept of Social Services are working with private businesses to supply bottled drinking water to distribution sites in St. Louis City/County and Potosi Missouri. **DNR has also been shipping MREs from Jefferson City to the affected areas.**

Department of Social Services (DSS) has coordinated deliveries of water to St Louis City and deliveries of water and MREs to Washington County. DSS continues to work on mass care requests for affected jurisdictions.

State, Federal, and local government officials are continuing to participate in daily conference calls to coordinate resource requests and maintain communications.

Federal Actions

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is operating with an advance team out of the SEOC. Also, an ESF-8 team (Public Health and Medical Services) has been dispatched to the area to conduct a medical needs assessment. A debris management technician is also conducting an assessment for future debris operations.

Other State Agency and Volunteer Agency Actions

American Red Cross (ARC) and The Salvation Army (TSA) along with numerous other organizations are operating shelters in St Louis City, St Louis County, and assisting with mass feeding operations across the affected area. Volunteer agencies continue to work with local governments in the storm affected areas. Requests for cots, cooling tents, and other assistance continue to be passed on to these agencies.

Weather

National Weather Service forecasts indicate a gradual warming trend. A high of 93 is expected on Tuesday, increasing to 94 on Wednesday, and 95 by Thursday, with heat indices reaching 105 in the metro area by that time. There is a slight chance of rain showers entering the area Thursday night into Friday. But the weather service expects the heat to return for the weekend, with high topping out at 95 by Sunday.

Point of Contact:

SEMA Duty Officer after hours (Starting at 4:30 pm) number is 573-751-2748. During normal duty hours calls should be made to 573-526-9100.

This Situation Report and other storm-related information may be viewed at the following web address:

<http://sema.dps.mo.gov/Situation%20Reports.htm>